

say that he is to be recalled. Gen. Waddy Thompson has resigned his office as Minister to Mexico. Iowa has applied for admission to the Union.

By a recent decree of Peru, whalers are forbidden to touch at Pisco.

Literary Notices.

Remarks upon Coral formations in the Pacific; with Suggestions as to the Causes of their Absence in the same parallels of latitude on the Coast of South America. By JOSEPH P. COUTHOUY. Boston, 1842.

(Continued from our last.)

It has been a common belief that the growth of coral was very rapid, and that the coral insects were silently but speedily not only giving birth to new reefs, islands, but even continents were destined by their labors to rise above the waters. Later observations have disproved this theory, and it has been ascertained that the increase of coral is exceedingly slow. Probably the growth of coral operates in the sea in the same manner, and with proportionate effect to the growth of vegetation ashore. In fact coral, so far from creating reefs from the illimitable depths of the ocean, requires a permanent foundation for its own existence—and obeys the laws of temperature and density of sea-pressure as regularly as vegetation on shore the changes of atmosphere. Mr. C. devotes many pages to accounting for the multifarious forms of coral islands, lagoons, reefs, &c.; their gradual changes, growth of vegetation upon them, etc. The result of his observations on reef-growing coral is as follows. It grows most compactly and vigorously at a depth of from three to eight fathoms, though found not unfrequently at a much greater depth—even at twenty fathoms. He says:—

"It is my belief that, to a certain extent, the corals are limited in their range of growth by temperature rather than depth, and that wherever this is not below 76° Fahr. there, *ceteris paribus*, they will be found to flourish, as in the Polynesian seas; accordingly we find that their principal formations are placed within the tropics, and though I have no means of ascertaining at this moment the fact, I apprehend that in the Indian Ocean, as in the Pacific, the saxigenous polypes will be found most abundant and at their greatest depths, in a belt comprising about twenty degrees on each side of the equator.

"But even allowing that they invariably commenced their structures at the extreme depth of twenty fathoms, it is obvious that no reef would attain a thickness of much more than a hundred feet, before the labors of the polypes must cease and themselves perish, in consequence of their exposure to the sun's rays. The question then naturally arises, how are we to account for the existence of coral banks, so greatly exceeding this thickness as some are known to do; if it is thus disproved that their polypes build at corresponding depths?

Mr. Chas. Darwin, who accompanied King and Fitzroy, as Naturalist, in their late survey of the eastern extremity of our continent, was led by his examination of a lagoon island, (the only one I believe on which he landed,) and a comparison of the observations of his predecessors on this subject, to frame an hypothesis, which appears to offer us a solution of this problem, at once satisfactory, simple and rational.

According to the statements lately given by Prof. Lyell, in his lectures before the Lowell Institute, Mr. D. supposes the great thickness of the reefs, to have been formed by a gradual and long continued subsidence of the original shelf of coral, while the surface was maintained at the same level as at first, by the unceasing additions made by the polypes. Carrying out this principle, he attributes the peculiar conformation of lagoon islands to the operation of similar causes. That is to say, he considers that the site of those islands of such a character, now sprinkled over the whole vast coralliferous belt of ocean, was once occupied by islands of various elevation, surrounded as many of the same class now are, by a fringing or shore reef; that as these have slowly sunk, the reef has gradually receded from the shore, and on their total disappearance left the lagoon only to mark the place of their existence. Thus the coral islands instead of being looked upon as the germs of a new continent, should be contemplated as the wrecks, or rather as beacons, pointing out where lie the wrecks of one, long since."

"In the deep bosom of the ocean buried."

He evidently adopts the opinion that the islands of Polynesia once formed a vast equatorial continent, which has subsided, and left the present islands as grave stones to commemorate its former existence. The uniformity of the geological features of the several groups, favors this opinion; and perhaps volcanic agency was the active cause of the submergence. At all events, the chief islands exhibit incontestible proofs of its powerful effects, and the low coral islands are based upon ledges of lava. At the present time he judges the whole of Polynesia to be slowly rising, and quotes many facts to maintain the theory.

"The conclusions to which I have been led by all the observations made among the coral islands of

Polynesia, may be summed up as follows:—firstly, that the subsidence was not continuous, but interrupted by long periods during which the land, and after its disappearance, the reef, remained stationary, and the successive terraces were formed; secondly, that it continued, at least in certain places, up to a comparatively recent day, and ceased not long after the total submergence of the pre-existing land; thirdly, that there followed an indefinite interval of repose, with the reef at a sufficient depth below the surface of the ocean, to enable the polypes to construct the overhanging shelf whose fragments now strew the upper plateau; fourthly, that to this quiescent state ensued one of re-elevation,* at a period of which, when the shelf was considerably lower than the plateau now is, yet exposed to the full violence of the surf, it was torn off and the fragments carried to their present locality; and lastly, that this re-elevatory process is still going forward, not only in the coral groups, but also in most of the volcanic ones of Polynesia."

*There is one peculiarity in the sea or barrier reefs of all the volcanic islands, for which, unless it is to be attributed to the recency of their elevation, I can at present suggest no explanation. I refer to the entire absence upon them, no matter how exposed may be their situation, of any fragmentary ridges, such as are found at every Paumotu, even where the distance from the outer plateau to the lagoon is much less than the breadth of some barrier reefs.

The succeeding article, taken from the Boston Medical Journal, contains information of much value to invalids, and even to persons in robust health; for we speak from experience when we say that a sulphur bath is a luxury of the most grateful and salutary nature. The sulphur beds which abound in the theatre of volcanic action on Hawaii, are capable of being turned in this respect to excellent account. At a small expense a suitable house for the accommodation of travellers could be erected near the crater of Kilauea, from which they could sally at any hour, either to enjoy the luxury of a thorough steaming over the hot sulphur, or a view of the wondrous phenomena of the yawning pit beneath:

SULPHUR FUME BATH.

ORIGIN.—In Italy there is a volcanic district called Solfatara, containing a natural laboratory for generating sulphurous vapor, the healing properties of which have been known to the neighboring population for ages. This gas is continually poured forth through fissures in the earth, and over these the inhabitants build small huts, in which they expose their bodies, to the action of the warm vapor for the cure of various diseases. In 1816, Dr. Gales, an eminent French physician, published, by order of that government, a report on the efficacy of sulphur fumigations, combined with artificial heat, in the treatment of diseases of the skin, chronic rheumatism, paralytic affections, gout, &c. About the same time the "Faculty of Physic of Paris," also made a favorable report touching the efficacy of this remedy in the diseases above named. This report was signed by Dupuytren, Richerand, and several other distinguished physicians. After receiving the approbation of such eminent men, the Sulphur Baths immediately enjoyed the confidence and extensive patronage of all the leading members of the medical faculty of Paris, and have been in active operation in the principal hospitals of that city for nearly thirty years. The annual number administered at some of these establishments is very great. At the hospital of St. Louis alone, the number is more than 180,000, besides those given at the Hotel Dieu, Maison Royale de sante, &c. For many years, Dr. Green, of London, has been connected with a hospital where the Sulphur Bath has constituted the principal item in the cure of cutaneous diseases, and other maladies. He states that the success attending the practice, the satisfaction given to medical men whose patients have been subjected to the remedy, and the happy results to the patients themselves, equally contribute to encourage their use and extend their advantages. They often succeed after other remedies have been tried in vain.

MODE OF TAKING THE BATHS.—The individual sits in a box about the size of a coach. The face is not included within the apparatus, and the individual inhales a pure atmosphere and is as comfortable as though he were seated in a parlor, and is unconscious that his whole person, except the head and face, is enveloped in a dense cloud of dry sulphur vapor, at a temperature varying from 100 to 115 degrees. In six or eight minutes the pulse is somewhat accelerated, full and vigorous, but always soft; an animated blush is diffused upon the countenance and the whole surface is covered with perspiration as if the individual had been engaged in some powerful athletic exercise. While he is thus situated, with the circulation quickened, and the pores of the skin expanded and excited to increased activity, he is in the most favorable circumstances possible for the absorption of the sulphurous vapor. No smell of the sulphur remains after the bath is completed. Hence this process com-

mends itself for its neatness and simplicity, and is usually regarded as a luxury by those who are subjected to it.

EFFECTS OF THE BATHS.—They exert a benign action upon persons of a thin, nervous or bilious habit; also upon those of a scrofulous temperament, with languid circulation, cold extremities, and the skin dry and husky. Under such circumstances the beneficial results of the fumigations, in the diseases already mentioned, may be calculated upon with little fear of disappointment; and like all other remedies, should be kept from the hands of quackery and ignorant pretenders with as much care as we would rescue pearls from the trappings of swine. The immediate sensations produced are those of increased vigor and elasticity of body and cheerfulness of mind. The more lasting impressions upon the system generally, are those of a tonic. The appetite is sharpened, the stomach and all the other digestive organs are rendered more energetic in their various labors upon "the plastic elements of nutrition," and the patient is quite sure to gain flesh. Nearly two thousand of these baths have been administered within the last two years at Dr. Durkee's private hospital in this city. He states that it is his practice to ascertain the weight of the patient at the time of commencing and finishing a series of the baths, and the result in regard to the increase of weight is as stated above in fifteen cases out of twenty, which affords ample demonstration of their healthy influence upon the constitution. If taken but a few times they produce a peeling of the cuticle, so that the patient soon finds himself clad in an entire new skin. They may be taken at all times and seasons, without risk of "taking cold;" and the reason is this: the ceremony itself produces great activity in the whole circulation, and especially is this the fact with the innumerable vessels of the skin, which condition fortifies the individual against any supposed danger arising from subsequent exposure in the open air.

Sales at Auction.

June 1st.—By F. W. Thompson—hull of bark Conception, \$1170—rigging, spars, stores, etc., \$1200.

Imports.

Per Ontario, from Boston,—69 bbls. gin; 2139 ft. oars; 28 spars; 1 case whips; 111 cases shoes; 4 ottomans; 170 kegs nails; 8 cases dry goods; 2 do. sofas; 5 do. stationery; 99 pieces timber; 1 case hats; 30 bales cottons; 4 cases prints; 190 boxes wine; 33 cases cordials; 1 case cologne water; 10 bales York jeans; 8 boxes tobacco, &c.—to master.

Latest Dates.

From London, March 1—Paris, March 1—United States, (New Orleans) Apr. 6, (Boston) Mar. 15—Mexico, (Matatlan) May 9.

Passengers.

Per brig Sir James Byng, for Sydney—Messrs. Forbes.

To Correspondents.—X. Y. will be in our next.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE FOR THE PORT OF HONOLULU.



1844.



ARRIVALS.

June 4th.—H. H. M. sch. Hoikaika, Hall, 25 days from Matatlan, with dispatches to the Hawaiian Sec. of State for For. Affairs. The H. was 36 days in reaching Matatlan.

June 5th.—Am. W. bark Levant, E. H. Russell, Wareham, 18 mos., 200 sperm—bound to the N.W.—obliged to put back on account of leaking 2000 strokes per hour—will be hove down.

June 5th.—Brem. W. ship Bremen, Eiger, 5 mos., 70 bbls. sperm.

SAILED.

June 1st.—Br. brig Sir James Byng, Megget for Sydney.

DISASTERS, &c.—Arrived at Lahaina, June 2, Am. whale ship Bowditch, of Providence, 12 mos. out, 450 bbls. w., 4000 lbs. bone. Capt. Soule, the former commander, with four seamen, Edward Ford of Providence, Sam. M. Tripp, Henry Brown and Emiel Albert, were lost on the 9th of May ult., while fast to a whale—the boat filling and upsetting. At the request of the crew, the 1st officer, John Fletcher, who assumed command, put back for Lahaina. While in that port the crew refused to proceed to sea with their present officers; but finally, with the exception of one man, agreed to go for the remainder of the season. She is to leave, as soon as her recruits are completed, for the North West.—Information furnished by M. Calkin, Esq., U. S. Consul for Lahaina.

Brig Globe, from Boston, for Sandwich Islands, reported yesterday put into Fayal in distress. During a gale Dec. 7 and 8, broke the cheek from the heel of the jibboom, and wrung off the end of the bowsprit, raking fore and aft, carrying away the stern davits and boat, fore and main plates and bowsprit, broke all the main rail and bulwarks from the fore-castle deck to the mainmast, broke off 14 stanchions, splitting open and tearing up the plank-shear fore and aft, which let the water down in such quantity that she could not be freed until the gale abated at 6 P. M. on the 5th. Her repairs were nearly completed, and she would sail Jan. 14. None of her cargo had been discharged, and it was thought it was not damaged.—N. Y. Herald, Feb. 24th.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW GOODS.

GEORGE PELLY & GEORGE T. ALLAN Agents for the Hudson's Bay Company, have just received, per barque Brothers, from London, and offer for sale, the following articles, viz:—

Sundries.

Shell Augers—Brad Awhs—blue and white Earthen Ware—Basons with soap drainers to match—Earthen Ware, Slop, Sugar, and Milk Basins—brass Bedsteads, with Moscheto Curtains and Hair Mattresses complete—Day & Martin's best liquid and paste Blacking—Wine Bottles—Wellington and Hessian Light Boots—India Rubber and Cotton Braces—Bolts for doors—cloth, hair, tooth, shoe, whitewash and horse Brushes—Mother of pearl, shirt, patent, metal, white horn and gilt buttons—imitation wax Candles—plated and brass Candlesticks and Shades—cloth foraging Caps, plain and with gold lace bands, of all sizes—handsome dressing cases—cut glass salt cellars—pairing and mortice chisels—oil cloths for rooms—ladies' superfine cloths—damask table cloths and napkins—frock coats—brass cocks (ass'd sizes)—combs—dressing, &c. &c.—best velvet wine corks—cottons, prints, regattas and bleached long cloths—fine book and printed muslins—India rubber capes—sets of block tin dish covers—sets of dinner and tea crockery, &c.—sets of China—plated and lacquered liquor and cruet stand—decanter, plain and cut, quart and pint—bleached diaper, for table linen—linen drill, white and brown—pieces blue and white flannel, superfine and second quality—black silk ferrets—hand, cross-cut, and pit-saw files—sailor's Guernsey and duck frocks—copper, brass, and silk gauze, for moscheto curtains and safes—wine glasses of all sorts and latest patterns—toilet glasses of finest plate glass—spice and assorted gimblets—window glass—gridirons, large and small—silk, cotton, and kid gloves—Socket gougues—twilled cotton dressing gowns, shawl patterns—percussion caps—gun flints—legs gunpowder, of 28 lbs each—handkerchiefs, silk and cotton, for neck and pocket—Hapsa and staples—black and white beaver hats, latest fashion—hinges, iron and brass—ladies and gentlemen's silk hose—bleached Huckabuck, for towels—blue cloth pea and superfine cloth jackets—flat, bolt and hoop iron—smoothing irons—plane irons, double and single, of all sizes—earthen water jugs—iron, wrought tea-kettles and cast iron pots—double and single blade pocket knives—also, table knives and forks of first quality—handsome table-lamps, lace for ladies' dresses—Irish linen—locks, pad, brass case door, desk, cupboard, &c.—nails of all sizes, wrought and cut—needles—oval and round tin pans, in nests of 4 each—frying-pans, large and small—silk parasols and umbrellas, of a new pattern—clay pipes—mixed and diamond pins: light ploughs, with numerous spare irons to each: sailor's hook tin pots: earthen ware: tea and Britannia metal tea and coffee-pots, of very handsome patterns: earthen ware chambers, blue and white: fancy quilting, for vests or bed covers: black hair ribbon: saws, cross-cut, hand, pit and tenon: ladies' scissors: cork and wood screws: silk serge, of all colors, for coat linings: shovels and spades: duck sheeting, for light sails and trowsers: shirts, men and boys' white cotton, striped, regatta, blue and red flannel: shoes, ladies and gentlemen's light summer, boys', youth's, girls', infants—and men's strong bound: gentlemen's common and Morocco slippers: brass portable sofas: soap—yellow, mottled, curd and best shaving: steel-yards, to weigh from 40 to 200 lbs: thread—silk and cotton, of all colors and qualities: Tin, different sizes: Negro Head tobacco: Trowsers—summer, sailors' duck and cloth: plain and cut-glass tumblers: earthen ware soup tureens: iron wheels for trucks: summer vests: brass wire: coffee: mustard: Carolina rice.

Stationery.

Superfine foolscap: books, 1, 2, 3 and 4 quires: 8vo memorandum books: black and red ink-powder: glass cone ink-stands: pen-knives, of very superior quality: slate-pencils: Perry's superior steel pens: broad, middling and narrow office tape: boxes wafers.

Naval Stores.

Anchors for vessels of 60 to 75, 100 to 150, and 350 tons: double and single blocks of all sizes: paint brushes: patent chain cables, complete: bolts patent canvass, No. 1 to No. 8: sheathing copper, 32, 28, 24 and 16 oz: nails for do: copper rods and spike nails: sail-needles: boat-nails and pump-tacks: paints, pitch, and best Stockholm tar: iron pumps, complete: whale-line and rope and rigging of all dimensions: ratline: deep-sea and hand-lead lines: spirits turpentine: black varnish: seaming and roping twine: linseed oil: rosin.

Columbia country PRODUCE.

PINE SPARS, of all sizes.

LUMBER—comprising Plank, Boards, and Rafters.

A variety of other articles not enumerated.

June 1.

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Copartnership Notice.

THE undersigned would inform their friends and the public, that they have this day entered into Copartnership as HOUSE CARPENTERS and JOINERS, and keep constantly on hand, for sale, Sash Doors; Panelled do.; Venetian do.; Batten do.; Sashes, Panelled Shutters, &c. &c. &c. Jobbing done on the shortest notice.

Wanted,—A few Journeyman Carpenters.

C. W. VINCENT, JOHN WILEY.

Honolulu, May 24, 1844.

2m

Copartnership Notice.

THE subscribers hereby give notice, that they have this day formed a copartnership for the prosecution of the TAILORING business, in all its branches. Work done at the shortest notice, and on the most reasonable terms. They would be happy to receive the orders of their friends, at their shop, over the store of E. C. Webster.

JOHN BALLOU, C. H. NICHOLSON.

Honolulu, May 22, 1844.

3w

Notice.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at the Treasury Office, for re-mounting the guns on Punch-Bowl Hill, on new carriages. Timber, oak, or other wood of the best quality; wheels to have half-inch tire, and all the other iron-work complete. All proposals to be sent in on or before the 15th June.

2w

June 8.